



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022

No. 118

## Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, look down from Heaven to see those who passionately seek Your presence. Listen to our prayers. Lord, our hearts are steadfast toward You, so lead our Senators safely to the refuge of Your choosing. Thank You for giving us a future and a hope.

Today, give our lawmakers the power to do Your will as they fully realize they are servants of Heaven and stewards of Your mysteries. Provide them the wisdom to make faith the litmus test by which they evaluate each action as they refuse to deviate from the path of integrity. Lord, keep them from being careless about their spiritual and moral growth.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, July 18, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,  
President pro tempore.

Ms. HIRONO thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Nina Nin-Yuen Wang, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

#### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, first, let me thank all of my colleagues for their kind words during my time isolating due to COVID last week. As you can see, I have made a full recovery after experiencing only mild symptoms, thank God. COVID has done incalculable damage to scores of American families, but because I was fortunate enough to be vaccinated and double boosted, my case was not as bad as it could have been.

I urge all Americans who have not been vaccinated yet to talk to their doctors and get the vaccine, if possible, and then get boosted when the time is right. Speaking from personal experience, it makes all the difference in the world.

#### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Now, Madam President, the Senate gavel back in for the second week of an exceedingly busy work period. There is a lot we must do quickly to lower costs and improve the lives of American families.

On the nominations front, we will continue confirming as many of President Biden's qualified judges and administrative appointees as possible. Last week, the Senate confirmed our 70th Biden-appointed Federal judge, on a voice vote, and this week we intend to keep going by confirming Judge Michelle Childs, of South Carolina, to serve as a circuit judge on the very, very important DC Circuit.

Very soon, the Senate must also take swift action to pass the PACT Act for a second time in order to correct a technical error that arose in the House. This legislation will be the most important healthcare reform bill that our veterans have seen in years, and there is absolutely no justification—none whatsoever—to delay the swift passage of this bill.

And, most importantly, the U.S. Senate must finish work on one of the most urgent priorities facing this Chamber: addressing the chip shortage that is hurting American consumers, decimating our supply chains, and endangering our national security.

For the information of all, tomorrow, we are going to hold the first procedural vote on legislation to address these critical issues, which both sides have been working on for months. As we speak, Democrats and Republicans are hashing out the final details on a bill so we can move forward this week.

The chip shortage is not some abstract issue; it is impacting the daily

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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